



THE EAST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

(Temporary Name)

Volume 2, Number 1

Spring 1988

FIRST ANNUAL HOMECOMING ALUMNI
BREAKFAST IS SUCCESSFUL

by

John Lamb, Jr. - Editor

The 1987 Homecoming Alumni Breakfast was held at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, November 7, 1987, in the Bluebonnet-Pecan-Friendship rooms in the Sam Rayburn Memorial Student Center. There were around 30 alumni, faculty and students present for a delicious breakfast and time of visiting and fellowship. The second annual breakfast will be held on Homecoming Day, 1988. More information and a reservation form will be in the fall newsletter.

NEWSLETTER NAME CONTEST

by

John Lamb, Jr. - Editor

The eight most popular names for the newsletter are listed below for your consideration. Please vote for one of them on the form in this newsletter. The name receiving the most votes will appear for the first time on the Fall, 1988 issue.

What Counts at ET
Alumni-matics
Sine of the Times
Factors

News Cube

AFTERMATH

Mathematics News from ETSU
Mathematics Alumni Club

STUDY IN ENGLAND

by

Vance Underhill

For several years East Texas State University has been cooperating with The University of Southern Mississippi in a venture known as the British Studies Program. The students who enroll travel to England and earn credit for courses taught by distinguished British lecturers. Both graduate and undergraduate courses in a variety of disciplines are available. This year, for the first time, a course is being offered in the area of mathematics. The exact course description is as follows:

SCIENCE EDUCATION: A History of British Mathematics (6 semester hours). Designed for teachers of math as well as mathematicians, this course covers the history of mathematics in Great Britain from the Renaissance down to the twentieth century. British contributions to mathematics have been many and varied, and these will be examined by distinguished British lecturers. To place mathematical events in proper perspective, attention will be given to relevant political and social events of the times. Special emphasis will be given to Newton because of his contributions to calculus and his critical discoveries in science. Excursions to Cambridge, Greenwich Observatory, the Royal Society, the British Museum, and Westminster Abbey are planned. Although some knowledge of college mathematics is desirable, the course will emphasize the history of mathematics (and science), not mathematical content.

Typically, lectures are held three days out of the week with the other days set aside for field trips, study or free time. This is a marvelous opportunity to earn credit hours while seeing England. The tentative departure date is July 6 with return on August 8. For more information contact:

Committee on International Studies
Dr. Glenn P. Fournet
Department of Psychology
East Texas State University
Commerce, Texas 75428
(214) 886-5595

BOOK REVIEW

by

Vance Underhill

The mathematical world has been trying very hard for the last few years to present mathematics and the activities of mathematicians to the general public. The reasons for this are probably many and varied, but the result has been a number of excellent books, magazine articles, and even an occasional television program.

In 1984, Wadsworth published a three-volume set entitled, Mathematics: People, Problems, Results, a collection of 94 essays edited by Douglas Campbell and John Higgins. This is not a history of mathematics, not a text, and certainly not a collection of mathematical results. It is, in the words of the editors, "an introduction to the spirit of mathematics." Principal section heading are: Historical Sketches; Some Mathematical Lives; The Development of Mathematics; The Nature of Mathematics; Real Mathematics; Foundations and Philosophy; Computers; Mathematics in Art and Nature; Counting, Guessing, Using; and Sociology and Education.

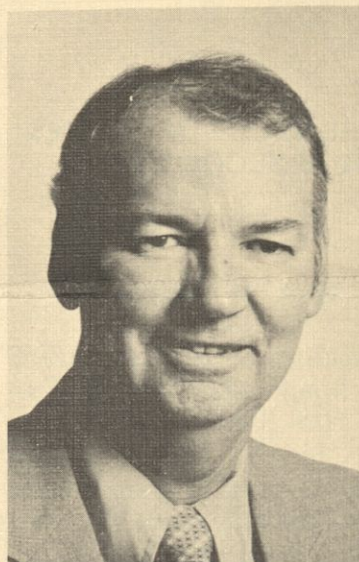
Read, for example, about the remarkable Irish mathematician, William Rowan Hamilton, who had mastered nine languages by the age of seven. Read about the solution of the famous Four-Color Problem. Determine whether or not infinite loops can be avoided in computer programs. And find out whether bunting in baseball is a mathematically sound strategy.

Most of the essays require a minimal mathematical background, though there are exceptions. Anyone interested in mathematics will find much to enjoy here. Read the ones that interest you and skip over the others. With the average essay only nine pages long, the books may gravitate to your bedside table for nighttime reading.

THE DEPARTMENT HEAD'S COLUMN

by

Dale R. Bedgood



Many of you know that last November, I requested that President Morris allow me to discontinue as department head, effective May 14, 1988, and to be a full time teacher in the Department of Mathematics.

After twenty-one years as department head at ETSU and one year at Northeast Louisiana University, I am looking forward with much anticipation to teaching full time and working on several projects that have been pushed aside through the years. I have enjoyed greatly my years as head of this department and now I am sure that I will enjoy just as much the duties that will be mine beginning the summer, 1988.

During these twenty-one years, I have had seven academic deans, six academic vice presidents and four university presidents. Needless to say, we have been in a near state of constant adjustment and transition.

These twenty-one years, we had 38 full-time faculty members who are no longer here. Many of you had classes from one or more of these. Three of these 38 are retired — Dr. Floyd Hill who lives in Stephenville, Texas with his wife Robye, Mr. Bub Taylor who lives in Commerce, Texas with his wife Virginia and Mr. Clay Cheek also of Commerce. Several of those who were formerly on our faculty left to return to graduate

study, some took jobs in industry, some went to other colleges and universities to teach, and some are now teaching in high school. We had 180 graduate teaching assistants during my tenure at ETSU. And we have had many majors in this department — the exact number is not available.

Several of our graduates are master teachers in the elementary and secondary grades, and at community college and university levels. Several have received the doctorate and many have distinguished themselves in their respective fields. It has been a most gratifying experience to have had the opportunity to know many of you.

As we are getting ready for this alumni letter to go to press a new department head has not been named. However, we believe that someone presently on the department faculty will be selected to this position.

Many of you know that ETSU has experienced enrollment decrease in recent years. However, this semester the University showed a slight increase, about 0.5%.

This semester, the enrollment in the department showed an increase of almost 12%. This department has generally reflected a stronger enrollment than the University in general. However, the overall health of the entire University is the major concern and consideration, not that of just one or two departments.

We always enjoy hearing from you and visiting with you when you are in this area. Summer is always an enjoyable time because that is when many of you are on campus, and many come to see the department even though you may not be enrolled in a mathematics course. We will look forward to hearing from you and/or seeing you the next few months.

FORMER FACULTY

by DALE BEDGOOD

Dale Bedgood

Dr. Paul Chiou: The fall semester, 1987 was Paul's last semester at ETSU. He came to the Department of Mathematics beginning the fall, 1983. Since being at ETSU Paul has completed the requirements for the Ph. D. degree in applied mathematics, become a citizen of the United States, published several scholarly papers, and has been an outstanding classroom teacher for us. We are indeed sorry to see Paul leave, and regret that we were unable to retain him because of fiscal constraints.

Paul has accepted a job in the Department of Mathematics at Louisiana Tech University and begins his duties there the spring quarter, 1988. We all wish Paul well in his new job.

ALUMNI RESERVATION FORM AND/OR NEWSLETTER NAME BALLOT

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR BOX: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____

Please reserve ____ places at the Bedgood appreciation banquet at \$7.00 each.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

My vote for the name of the newsletter is: _____

Sandra Wheeler: Sandra came to ETSU the fall, 1981 to begin work on the M. S. Degree and taught as an Assistant Instructor while pursuing the degree. Upon completion of her degree in 1983, she continued at ETSU as adjunct/ad interim instructor. She continued to take courses in mathematics, computer science, and educational media. She assisted in the Computer Lab (Education) part of this time while keeping her skills sharp in mathematics. But our fiscal limitations have caused us to no longer be able to retain the services of Sandra. She has returned to her home town of Vernon, Alabama and is working as a computer analyst in that city. We will all miss Sandra.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS FOR SUMMER 1988

by

John Lamb, Jr. - Editor

Several alumni have asked that we publish our summer course offerings in the spring newsletters. They are listed below. If you would like to have a complete Summer Schedule, please let us know so we can send one to you.

Mathematics Course Title	Sec.	Cr.	Time	Room	Instructor
First Term					
MATH 131 Intermediate Algebra (Credit earned not applicable toward the bachelors degree.)	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-301	Underhill
MATH 141 College Algebra	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-301	Staff
MATH 175 Mathematics for Business Applications I	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-328	Staff
MATH 191 Calculus I	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-326	Lambert
MATH 225 Calculus III	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-302	Lambert
MATH 301 Geometry for Elementary Teachers	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-329	Lamb
MATH 321 College Geometry	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-302	Lamb
MATH 331 Discrete Mathematics	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-329	Anderson
MATH 335 Linear Algebra	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-301	Anderson
MATH 401 Introduction to Mathematical Statistics	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-328	Brock
MATH 497 Special Topics	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	002	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	003	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
MATH 500 Mathematics for Secondary Teachers (June 27-July 13)	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-2:50p	BIN-328	Bedgood
MATH 514 Probability	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-302	Brock
MATH 529 Workshop-Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (June 7 - June 23)	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-2:50p	BIN-301	Aslan
MATH 529 Workshop-Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (June 27 - July 13)	002	3	MTWH 11:00a-2:50p	BIN-301	Aslan
MATH 580 Topics from the History of Mathematics	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-327	Staff
MATH 595 Research Literature and Techniques	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
MATH 597 Special Topics	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	002	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	003	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
Second Term					
MATH 131 Intermediate Algebra	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-326	Staff
MATH 141 College Algebra	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-301	Staff
MATH 176 Mathematics for Business Applications II	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-329	Bedgood
MATH 192 Calculus II	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-302	Staff
MATH 314 Calculus IV	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-302	Lambert
MATH 334 Introduction to Abstract Algebra	001	3	MTWH 9:00a-10:50a	BIN-302	Anderson
MATH 372 Mathematics Structures and Application for Elementary Teachers	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-329	Bedgood
MATH 453 Essentials of Statistics	001	3	MTWH 7:00a-8:50a	BIN-328	Brock
MATH 497 Special Topics	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	002	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	003	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
MATH 510 Basic Calculus with Application for Secondary Teachers	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-328	Underhill
MATH 529 Workshop-Math for Elementary Teachers (July 18 - August 4)	001	3	MTWH 11:00a-12:50p	BIN-330	Aslan
MATH 595 Research Literature and Techniques	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
MATH 597 Special Topics	001	3	TBA	TBA	Staff
	002	3	TBA	TBA	Staff

MATHEMATICS FACULTY ACTIVITIES

by

John Lamb, Jr. - Editor

The mathematics department faculty for 1987-88 changed between the fall and spring semesters. It now consists of Stuart Anderson, Bill Aslan, Dale Bedgood, Archie Brock, John Davenport, Dennis Grantham, John Heath, John Lamb, Jr., Howard Lambert, and Vance Underhill. Besides teaching courses, some have been active in research and other professional activities.

Dr. Dale Bedgood has been asked to serve as a presider of a conference section at a meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Chicago, Ill. in April.

Mr. John Davenport is now serving as a member of a regional review panel for the Texas Academic Skills Program (T.A.S.P.)

Mr. John Heath continues to serve as the faculty sponsor of the mathematics clubs - Alpha Gamma Alpha and Pi Mu Epsilon.

Dr. Bill Aslan and Dr. John Lamb, Jr. have published an article in the 1988 Winter issue of Mathematics and Computer Education titled "An Analysis of the Durer Angle Trisection Approximation Method."

HOWARD LAMBERT DOING WELL

by

Howard Lambert

In the last newsletter it was reported that mathematics professor Howard Lambert had suffered a heart attack in April, 1988. He returned to full time teaching in August. He is presently feeling good and back to near normal activities.

BEDGOOD APPRECIATION BANQUET PLANNED

By

Bill Aslan

An appreciation banquet for Dr. Dale Bedgood has been scheduled for May 6, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bluebonnet-Pecan-Friendship rooms located on the third floor of the ETSU Student Center honoring him for his 21-years of dedicated service as head of the ETSU Mathematics Department. Those alumni who wish to join us for the festivities may do so by sending in the reservation form in this newsletter. The cost is \$7.00 per person. Please send your reservation to me, Bill Aslan, in care of The Mathematics Department, ETSU, Commerce, Texas 75428 as soon as possible but no later than April 29, 1988. The buffet dinner menu features chicken cog au vin, beef burgandy and seafood newburg plus a scrumptious array of vegetables and salads with a dessert bar.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO FACULTY AND STUDENTS BY THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

by

Richard Dubes

The fall semester found the mathematics department supporting a wide range of statistical support to the university in such areas as agriculture, sociology and psychology. Support is offered in the form of design, programming and interpretation as well as class room assistance in data handling and statistical package usage on the university's computer. The spring semester is expected to be even more productive as a result of the installation of two new computers on campus. Both statistical packages have been updated and operate in completely new VM/SP environment. Several requests have already been made of the mathematics department for transitional advice.

Enhanced Computer Capabilities Purchased by Math Department by Dennis Grantham

The Department of Mathematics has recently purchased three IBM compatible personal computers. These can be used as PC's but they are also connected to the main frame and can thus serve as terminals to access files on either the administrative computer or to run programs on the academic computer. ETSU purchased, in 1987, two 9375 IBM computers. These are IBM's most recent model, funds for the purchase being made available from Proposition 2 money.

The department has also purchased a mathematical symbol processor EXACT which allows the easy typing of mathematical symbols. This has facilitated the production of more professional appearing papers, tests, and handouts.

This is typed in

$$\sqrt{\text{EXACT}} \\ \int_a^b \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln \left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$$

PI MU EPSILON - ALPHA GAMMA ALPHA INITIATION BANQUET HELD

by

John Heath - Faculty Advisor

The annual Pi Mu Epsilon - Alpha Gamma Alpha initiation banquet was held on March 9, 1988 in the Memorial Student Center on the ETSU campus.

New initiates into Pi Mu Epsilon are:

Shawn W. Eagleton of Bonham
Nicole Ewing of Cooper
Barbara K. Gardner of Wolfe City
Charles M. Jones of Commerce
Jerry Kopel of Mesquite
Keri L. Peetz of Ennis
Charlotte Kay Simmons of De Kalb.

ALUMNI NEWS

by

Dennis Grantham

Our alumni continue to send us information about their accomplishments since graduating from ETSU. We will put it all in the newsletters eventually as space permits. The next newsletter will contain more news from our alumni selected at random from our file of information. If you have some information about yourself or anyone else that you feel would be appropriate for the newsletter, please send it in.

Rutland, Leon W. BS (40), MS (41), PHD (University of Colorado)
1391 Locust ave. Blacksburg VA, 24060
Married: Janet 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren.

He taught at the University of Miami, Colorado, and Virginia Tech where he was head of the department. He has co-authored several math books "none of which have been made into movies or made me rich."

Walker, Lantham (48))

1603 Harry, Monahans, Tx 79756
Married.

He taught in high school and was a principal of an elementary, junior high, and high school in Monahans. Upon his retirement as superintendent, the junior high was named in his honor.

Kerr, Henry Clyde BS (49) MS (51) (LSU)
4013 El Cid Place, Ft. Worth, TX 76133

Married: Theta Leslie, 3 children.
He taught math at Blinn College for 5 years before joining General Dynamics, as an engineer.

Easterwood, Hazel Baird MED (54)
13907 Foxwood, Houston, TX 77015
Married, 2 daughters, 1 son, 2 "fantastic grandsons".
She taught math for 21 years in the public schools.

Wood, Suzanne (Coppedge) BS (63), MS (65)
197 Idlewilde Drive, Winston-Salem, NC. 27106
Married: Ralph, 2 children
She is spending the year in London England where her husband is teaching.

Wood, Alen Wake BS (65), MS (68)
Rt 1 Box 48B Talco, TX 75487
Married, 2 children
Mr. Wood has taught math and been a coach for 23 years. He was given an award when he won his 400th basketball game. His number sense team has won district 6 times.

Martinez, David Ignace MS (76)
9629 Vinewood Dr. , Dallas, TX 75228
Married, 2 children
Mr. Martinez is Director for Data Services for DISD and teaches at the community college.

Sparks, Donna Lynn (Pollock) BS (76)
39 Greely Street, Hudson, NH 03051
Married: David, 1 daughter
Mrs. Sparks is a teacher in Rindge NH. in the elementary school.

Eatherly, Barbara Jo (Owens)
BS (76), MS (78)
Rt 1 Box 260 Paris TX 75460
Married: Carey, 1 child
She has been teaching Jr. High and High School math for 11 years in North Larmar ISD.

Yzenaga, Elaine (Ruhberg) BS (82)
Rt 4 Box 101-Y, Greenville, TX 75401
Married: John
Mrs. Yzenaga is employed at E-Systems as an Engineer 1 Analyst.

Kemp, Mauricia Jade (Fowler)
BS (82)
Rt 2 Box 603 Whitehouse, TX 75791
Married: David
Mrs. Kemp has taught in Tyler and Whitehouse.

Redman, Sharon Ann (March) BS (77)
MS (83)
1729 Westbridge Way, Garland TX 75042
Mrs. Redman has taught in the Mesquite ISD for 10 Years and also has taught at Richland Community College.

Martin, George BS(77), MS(83)
Rt. 4 Box 109A Sulphur Springs Tx. 75482
Mr. Martin teaches math and science at Greenville, Texas.

Svoboda, Kathy J. BS (84)
2825 Kessler Paris, TX 75460
Mrs. Svoboda teaches at North Lamar High School.

Tipping, Tracy BS (84) MS (86) (Kansas State University)
1212 Kearney #7 Manhattan KS 66502
Married: Wanda
Mr. Tipping is a research assistant at the James R. Macdonald Laboratory at Kansas State University.

Wiggins, Charlotte Ann (Schroeder)
BS (78), MED (85) -Sam Houston State
Box 6 Pine Meadow Dr. Cleveland, TX 77327
Married, 1 son.
Mrs. Wiggins has taught in the Junior High School in Cleveland ISD since 1979.

ACKERS, JANE BROCK (88) was married January 16 to Mr. James Ackers. Mrs. Ackers, daughter of Math professor Archie Brock, is currently employed at E-Systems Greenville. Mr. Ackers is a student at ETSU. They live in the Century House in Commerce.

Mathematics Department
East Texas State University
Commerce, TX 75428

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